

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Notice to Members

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT DECISIONS ON ITS INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

Members will find attached the text of the decision adopted by the European Parliament on 11 October 1984 concerning interparliamentary delegations for relations with third countries, together with an extract from the text of the decision adopted on 22 April 1982 setting up interparliamentary delegations, laying down the guidelines for their general responsibilities, composition and activities. These guidelines are confirmed in paragraph 3 of the decision of 11 October 1984.

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR COMMITTEES
AND INTERPARLIAMENTARY DELEGATIONS

27.11.1984

PE 92.780 /rev.

DECISION *

concerning the interparliamentary delegations for relations with third countries

The European Parliament,

- having regard to its decision of 22 April 1982 on the setting-up of interparliamentary delegations ⁽¹⁾,
- having regard to the record of activities of the delegations for relations with third countries during Parliament's first term of office (1979 to 1984),
- convinced of the need to preserve the democratic element in the Community's external relations by ensuring the direct involvement of the representatives elected by the peoples of Europe,
- convinced of the value of the various interparliamentary dialogues entered into in the interests of the Community and of its citizens,

1. Fixes the number of delegations and the number of their members as follows:

- delegation from the European Parliament to the European Parliament/Spanish Cortes Joint Committee (18 members),
- delegation from the European Parliament to the European Parliament/Portuguese Parliament Joint Committee (18 members),
- delegations from the European Parliament for relations with:

A. Europe

- the countries of northern Europe (Sweden, Norway, Finland and Iceland) and the Nordic Council: 10 members,
- Switzerland: 10 members,
- Austria: 10 members,
- Committee of EFTA Parliamentarians: 10 members,
- Yugoslavia: 10 members,
- the countries of Eastern Europe: 10 members,
- Malta: 10 members,
- Cyprus: 10 members;

B. North Africa and Middle East

- Maghreb countries (Algeria, Morocco, Tunisia): 10 members,
- Mashreq countries (Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria): 10 members,
- Israel: 10 members,
- Gulf States: 10 members;

C. The Americas

- United States: 25 members,
- Canada: 14 members,
- Latin America (Latin-American Parliament and Andean Parliament): 36 members,
working in two specialist groups:
 - (a) countries of Central America and the Contadora Group: 18 members,
 - (b) remaining countries in South American: 18 members,The chairmen of these two groups will share the chairmanship of joint meetings;

* OJ No C 300, 12.11.1984, p. 50

⁽¹⁾ OJ No C 125, 17. 5. 1982, p. 113.

D. Asia and Australia

- countries of South Asia (Bangladesh, India, Pakistan and Sri Lanka): 10 members,
- member countries of ASEAN and the ASEAN Interparliamentary Organization (AIPO): 18 members,
- People's Republic of China: 18 members,
- Japan: 18 members,
- Australia and New Zealand: 10 members.

2. Fixes the number of members of the delegation to the European Parliament/Turkish Grand National Assembly Joint Committee, provided for under Article 27 of the Treaty of Association, at 18;

¹ Decides that the delegation of the European Parliament/Grand National Assembly of Turkey Joint Committee will not be set up until the Association Treaty is implemented once again and until the European Parliament has reconsidered the situation in Turkey.

3. Confirms the abovementioned decision concerning the setting-up, general powers and activities of the delegations;

4. Expects that those appointed members of the delegations will faithfully represent the views and resolutions of the European Parliament and that they will cooperate fully with their chairmen and vice-chairmen in fulfilling the tasks allocated to them, particularly when the delegations undertake missions;

5. Considers it necessary that only those members who have attended the preparatory meetings of the relevant delegations and taken part in meetings with the visiting delegation should be included in these missions;

6. Instructs the chairmen of delegations to inform it of the outcome of their meetings and missions in a report to the enlarged Bureau and, where appropriate, in a statement to the House;

7. Calls on the Committee of the Chairmen of Delegations to draw up, for approval by the enlarged Bureau, a draft general and multiannual timetable of interparliamentary meetings inside and outside the Community which is compatible with the general activities of the European Parliament;

8. Instructs the enlarged Bureau, working in close cooperation with the chairmen of the delegations, to ensure the harmonious development of the delegations and the interparliamentary exchanges promoted by them.

Extract from

DECISION
of 22 April 1982
setting up interparliamentary delegations (1)

The European Parliament,

— having regard to Rule 106 of its Rules of Procedure,

— wishing to lay down guidelines for the general responsibilities, composition and activities of the interparliamentary delegations,

1. Decides as follows:

- (a) The interparliamentary delegations for relations with third countries shall be the European Parliament's organs for external contacts and interparliamentary cooperation; Their tasks shall be:
 - interparliamentary dialogue,
 - the exchange of information on topical issues and research of special interest,
 - the provision of parliamentary backing for the Community's external policies;
- (b) The frequency and general calendar of interparliamentary meetings shall be laid down by the Enlarged Bureau, if possible for several years at a time. The Enlarged Bureau may submit proposals to Parliament for the establishment of new contacts with new partners;
- (c) Each interparliamentary meeting shall be subject to prior authorization by the Enlarged Bureau, which together with the chairman of the appropriate delegation shall consider the budgetary implications and resources available on the basis of a financial statement;
- (d) The political groups and the non-attached members shall forward the names of the chairmen, vice-chairmen and members of the delegations to the Enlarged Bureau, which shall rule on any disputes;
- (e) In appointing members to the delegations, the political groups shall take account of their membership of the appropriate parliamentary committees;
- (f) There shall be no substitutes for the full members. Should the latter be unable to take part in the work of the delegations, their political group shall appoint *ad hoc* replacements without delay;
- (g) The Enlarged Bureau shall ensure adequate attendance at the preparatory meetings of the delegations and the meetings with delegations from the third countries visiting Parliament;
- (h) The chairmen of delegations shall, in good time before meetings with delegations from third countries, inform the chairmen of the committees concerned of the subjects on the draft agenda, and ensure that the delegation is briefed and de-briefed by these committees;

(1) OJ C 125 of 17 May 1982

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- (i) The Enlarged Bureau, at the proposal of the delegation or the appropriate committee, may authorize the chairman or the rapporteur of a parliamentary committee on a particular topic to take part in a meeting of a delegation of which he is not a member;
- (j) Working documents drawn up on behalf of the delegation or for a specifically appointed member of the delegation, must primarily reflect the attitudes already adopted by the European Parliament in its resolutions or restate the publicly expressed views of the European Community;
- (k) The interparliamentary delegations shall not be empowered to publish statements of views, which, in the opinion of the delegation's chairman, go beyond policies or views expressed in resolutions of the Parliament. The Enlarged Bureau and the committee of chairmen of delegations will give guide rules for delegations on the drafting and agreement of bilateral communiques and unilateral statements;
- (l) After every interparliamentary meeting, the chairman of the delegation shall send a report on the work of the delegation, together with any appropriate recommendations, to the President of Parliament for the attention of the Enlarged Bureau. The Enlarged Bureau, shall decide on the circulation of this report to the parliamentary committees concerned and arrange for members to be informed as appropriate;

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